Page 2

Application/Control Number: 10/578,622

Art Unit: 1792

## EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

## Allowable Subject Matter

- Claims 17-32 are allowed.
- 2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The closest prior art of record, U.S. Patent No. 4,314,521 to Lundberg, fails to teach or reasonably suggest the claimed invention. Specifically, Lundberg discloses an apparatus for treatment of underwater surfaces comprising a rotary disk member with plural nozzles. However, Lundberg fails to teach or reasonably suggest a device having the claimed nozzle configuration on a rotary disc member. For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 17-32 are believed to recite patentable subject matter.
- 3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

## Conclusion

 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph L. Perrin whose telephone number is (571)272-1305. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30. Application/Control Number: 10/578,622 Page 3

Art Unit: 1792

5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael E. Barr can be reached on (571)272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Joseph L. Perrin/ Joseph L. Perrin Primary Examiner Art Unit 1792